

## SURRY COUNTY EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 4  
Oct. – Dec. 2011

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Appointment to the Board of Supervisors	1
Message from the County Administrator	1
Other Employee News	2
Election November 8 <sup>th</sup>	2
Back to School Safety Tips	2
Trivia Contest	2
Employee Profiles	3
Birthdays & Years of Service	3
Save the Date	3
Response to Hurricane	4
Congratulations	4
Calendar of Events	4
Human Resources News	4
Motivational Thought	4

### MR. DAVID A. HARRISON APPOINTED TO THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Mr. David A. Harrison and Mr. Peter Clements

At their meeting on August 4, 2011, the Surry County Board of Supervisors appointed Mr. David A. Harrison to represent the Claremont District for the remainder of his father's term which will end on December 31, 2011.

During the Board meeting held on September 1, 2011, Mr. David Harrison was presented with a resolution from Virginia's Gateway Region Board President, Mr. Peter Clements, honoring Mr. Reginald Harrison for his numerous contributions to the organization as well as to economic development throughout the Central Virginia region.

## Message from the County Administrator



### To the Employees of Surry County:

*I am very proud of the strides and accomplishments we have made through the efforts of our dedicated County employees. However, I am aware that on occasion, the rigors and routine of your job responsibilities can sometimes leave you feeling a bit burned out. Should you experience this – I'd like to share with you three key elements that have been helpful for me. They are as follows:*

**Attitude** – A positive mental attitude is vital to achieving success in your personal and professional life. Being positive, thinking positive and speaking positive is all consuming and it will improve your overall outlook.

**Humor** – Is a perspective for effective living. The ability to make others laugh and to make those in your presence feel good will only enhance the quality of your life as well as theirs.

**Action** – Developing a clearly defined set of goals daily, and following through on enough of them will give you a sense of accomplishment.

*I hope you find these elements to be useful. Most importantly:*

**Be encouraged – Get excited – Make a difference**

This is the final issue of 2011.

As always, if you wish to submit news or corrections, please provide information to Harriet Ruffin on the dates noted below by 12 noon:

Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> for Jan-March 2012 issue

March 15<sup>th</sup> for April-June 2012 issue

## Surry County Employees Newsletter

### Plan now to vote on November 8<sup>th</sup>!

The following offices will  
be decided on Election  
Day:

- Board of Supervisors
- Sheriff
- Commonwealth's Attorney
- Treasurer
- Commissioner of Revenue
- School Board
- Soil & Water Conservation Director



### TRIVIA CONTEST:

Be the first to answer  
the following trivia  
question and win a small  
prize available in the  
Administrator's Office.

Name the first  
state to recognize  
Christmas as an  
official holiday; in  
what year?

Winners of the previous  
contest were LaJuene  
Stone and Pam Flowers.  
Both came up with New  
Zealand as the first  
country to give women  
the right to vote.



## OTHER EMPLOYEE NEWS



### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Edward Barham, who  
was selected by the  
Minnesota Vikings in  
the NFL draft.

### Congratulations:

Mr. Hermione Slade has maintained a 4.0 GPA in his studies at Paul D. Camp Community College.  
Mr. Glenn Slade was elected President of the Virginia Extension Service Association (VESA) in May 2011.  
Mrs. Linda Ellis was appointed to serve on the Surry County Social Services Board through June 2014.

### Condolences:

To Mrs. Judy Lyttle on the passing of her sister, Mrs. Aileen Ballard, in August 2011.

To Mrs. Joan Brown, Surry DSS, on the passing of her grandmother.

To the families of Mrs. Bernice Holloman and Mrs. Brenda Langhorne formerly employed by the School Board; and Mr. Wallace Mavin, former Building Official who also passed away in August 2011.

Mr. Jonathan Judkins lost his uncle, Mr. John T. Judkins, Jr. in May and an aunt, Mrs. Sandra Crocker in August 2011.

Mrs. Jean Dixon, mother of Mrs. Debbie Nee passed away on September 2, 2011. Services were held in Cumberland, Maryland on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011.

### Thinking of You:

To Ms. Lucy Shaw who recently retired from the Maintenance Department and Mrs. Curtis Mae Hare of the Treasurer's Office.

### Best Wishes:

To Mr. John B. Edwards, Jr. and Mrs. Melissa Rollins as they move on to new positions in the Town of West Point and the City of Franklin respectively.

## BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

The following health and safety tips are from the American Academy of Pediatrics

### **BACKPACK SAFETY**

- Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back.
- Pack light and organize. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of your child's body weight.
- Always use both shoulder straps. Slinging a backpack over one shoulder can strain muscles.
- If your school allows, consider a rolling backpack.

### **TRAVELING TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY BUS**

- Use seat belts, if available.
- Wait for the bus to stop before approaching it from the curb.
- Do not move around on the bus.
- Check to see that no other traffic is coming before crossing the street.
- Make sure to always remain in clear view of the bus driver.
- Children should always board and exit the bus at locations that provide safe access to the bus or to the school building.

This entire article is available at: <http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/augschool.cfm> and contains additional information on the following: **EATING DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, BULLYING, BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CHILD CARE, DEVELOPING GOOD HOMEWORK AND STUDY HABITS.**

## Employee Profiles:



**Mary H. Shaw** has served the County as Treasurer since March of 2001. She was certified as Master Governmental Treasurer in 2002 and obtained Office Accreditation on July 1, 2003 – the first Treasurer in Surry County to do so. Mary is currently enrolled in the TAV Career Development Program. Married to Albert H. Shaw, Jr. for 35 years, she has three children and five grandchildren. When she's not at work, Mary says she enjoys being involved at church and spending quality time with her family.

**Faye P. Warren**, Chief Deputy Treasurer, has been employed by Surry County since January 2001. She is certified as Master Governmental Deputy Treasurer through the UVA Weldon Cooper Center and is also enrolled in the TAV Career Development Program. Faye has been married for 36 years to Benjamin Warren, Sr.; has four children and nine grandchildren. Faye enjoys sports, particularly tennis and football. She says that her parents are her inspiration – they have been married for 69 years and still have a zest for life. Faye attends St. Paul Holiness Church in Dendron and praises God for all that He has done in her life.



## WELCOME TO NEW EMPLOYEES

### Finance:

Ms. Terri Hale, Interim Finance Director

### Parks & Recreation:

Mr. Will Berryman, Athletic Coordinator

### Sheriff's Department:

Mr. Eric Quarles, Deputy

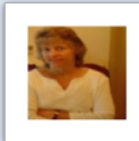
Mr. Darnell Stewart, Deputy

Mr. Stanley Jones, Deputy

Ms. Nicole Price, Deputy (Part-Time)



**Onike N. Ruffin** has been employed by Surry County since February 2002 and currently holds the position of Deputy Treasurer. She is Certified as Master Governmental Deputy Treasurer and enrolled in the TAV Career Development Program. Onike is the proud mother of Bryce Ruffin who is four years old. Her hobbies include reading and writing poetry, and she enjoys spending time with family.



**Mary Lynne Hayes**, Cashier/Teller, has been employed with the County since July of 2008. She has been married to Charles Hayes for 19 years; has a bulldog named Rocky, and three horses that keep her busy when she's not working in her yard.

## Birthdays & Years of Service

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Oct. 3	Linda Ellis
Oct. 9	Mary Lynne Hayes
Oct. 14	Johathan Judkins
Oct. 19	Janet Seward
	Will Berryman
Oct. 27	Rudy Mason
Nov. 1	Wanda Pittman
Nov. 2	Aaron Mizelle
	Shelle Switzer
Nov. 8	Sharon Scott
Nov. 11	Stacey Williams
	Shenee Graham
Nov. 12	Gail Clayton
Nov. 15	Valerie Pierce
Nov. 20	Clifford Redstone
Nov. 23	Deborah Nee
Nov. 28	Sophenia Pierce
Dec. 4	Aundrea Hamrick
Dec. 6	Sonia Beatty
Dec. 7	Marta Terry
Dec. 11	Devida Wheeler
Dec. 14	James Joyner
Dec. 20	Fannie Thompson
	Angela Blount
Dec. 26	Sandra Pierce
Dec. 30	Glynis Epps

### **Years of Service with Surry County:**

Michael Bailey	17 years
Roderick Barbee	1 year
Sonia Beatty	27 years
Pat Bernshausen	2 years
Judith Brown	20 years
Sheriff Clayton	30 years
Robin Eley	17 years
Sheryl P. Newby	31 years
Sophenia Pierce	14 years
Michael Rawlings	2 years
Shelle Switzer	9 years
Sherri Thomas	4 years
Benita Veiga	13 years



### **SAVE THESE DATES:**

The Employee Christmas Social is scheduled for the evening of Friday, December 9, 2011.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Surry County Christmas Parade and Illumination is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 2011.

(More information to follow.)





**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Billie Jean Elmer was recognized for her excellence in Extension on August 21, 2011.

Mr. Robert Mason, Surry Dept. of Social Services, was recognized for his many contributions to the development of the Surry County Resource and Employment Center on September 19, 2011.

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Visit the County's website at  
[www.surrycountyva.gov](http://www.surrycountyva.gov)

**MOTIVATIONAL  
THOUGHT**

Many little people in many small places undertaking many modest actions can transform the world.

*-African Proverb*

**RESPONSE TO HURRICANE IRENE**

Thanks to County staff, citizen volunteers as well as fire and rescue organizations in the County who helped with recovery efforts following Hurricane Irene.

Surry County opened a shelter at 8am on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> which served 65 residents of the county. As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, the Red Cross had served over 2,000 meals to county residents.

Volunteers distributed 24 pallets of ice and 35 pallets of water to residents without electricity from two distribution sites in the county. Although damage to property continues to be reported, no serious injuries were reported.

A special thanks to Mr. Ervin Jones, Deputy Emergency Services Coordinator and his dedicated staff.

**Calendar of Events:**

- October 10 - Columbus Day \*
- October 15 - Harvest Day Festival
- October 15-16 - African American Family Reunion
- October 31 - Halloween
- November 8 - Election Day \*
- November 11 - Veterans Day \*
- November 24 - Thanksgiving \* (offices closed from noon on the 23<sup>rd</sup> through Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>)
- December 9 - Employee Christmas Social
- December 10 - Surry County Christmas Parade
- December 25 - Christmas (offices closed from Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> through Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>)



*\*Government Offices are closed*

**HUMAN RESOURCES NEWS**

Representatives from MetLife Mid-Atlantic Financial Group will be providing a workshop of retirement preparedness. Workshops will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2011 with two sessions scheduled at 10:00 and 11:00am. , and will cover some of the following subjects:

- Know where you stand today
- Be prepared for emergencies
- Insure for the unexpected
- Create a will and estate plan
- Reduce debt
- Invest for long term
- Dollar cost average
- Contribute the maximum to retirement plans
- Seek expert advice